

The Athenian Mercury.

Saturday, November 10 1694

Quest. 1. **P**ray, from whence comes the humming noise of the Bee? whether from within the Body, or the Mouth, or the Wings?

Ans. First and foremost, Mr. Querist, take notice, you might have express your self more Poetically, of our Brother-Bee, whose particular Voice good Authors don't denote by bare humming, but by buzzing:

—Before thee in the Sun-beams buzz.

But if we should over-look this Error, which we confess is not in *Fundamentals*, another presently steps up in its room, at least a false supposition, the Querist seeming to imply, that the Bee only makes such a Noise; whereas there are several other Creatures which have the same gentle murmur; and, to say nothing of Flies, 'twould be perhaps as difficult to resolve, whence comes the mighty Buzz in Cities, Courts of Justice, and other frequent Assemblies, where we are apt to believe something like it would be heard, though not a Lawyer or an Oyster-Wench mov'd their Clacks from *Westminster-Hall* to *Billings-Gate*. The question then is, how they make it? For Bees, Butler is of Opinion they do it with their wings; (why not, as well as men can talk with their Fingers?) And this seems to be evident from Experience; for if that pretty creature falls into an Ambuscade of the Spiler, or into the hands of Man, his more ungrateful Enemy, do what you will with him, stab him, mangle him, poyson him, tear him Limb from Limb, (we beg the Ladies pardon, they say, the Bees are a Female Commonwealth, and all *Anaxous*) yet still you shan't hear one word of complaint steal from the Lips of that couragious creature; 'Twill flutter indeed with its Wing (as much as to say, 'twould wring its hands, if it had 'em) and make a pretty mournful murmur; but take away those Wings, and 'tis as mute as a Fish: impale it, torture it, fry it, broil it, rack it, set a whole Inquisition about its Ears, 'tis the same thing, and you can't extort a word from it, notwithstanding all your Barbarity.

But then for the *City-Buzz*, how is that conceivable without speaking? O, very easie: Do but, for an Experiment, stop all the mouths aforesaid, in the Courts aforesaid, and yet we'll pawn our Rep. upon't, you shall hear a Noise and a Buzzing still. There's the Lawyers Gowns, the Ladies Petticoats, the Fish-wives Baskets, which would supply the Place and Office of the Bees Wings, to say nothing of the motion of their Feet and Hands, the melancholy sigh of the poor Client, when, it may be, the Cause and the Lawyer both go against him, and the sagacious Hum of some Reverend Quoit, disputing Law through the Nose, as if Dame *Astrea* were dumb as well as blind. All these together will make such a Noise as you can't imagine, though they are scarce considerable in themselves. Nay, we are apt to believe, should all honest Citizens resolve together in one moment of Time, at a signal given, only to kiss their Wives, there would be such a long universal Umph!—rais'd upon it, as might be heard, for ought we know, beyond *Highgate*.

Quest. 2. A person being some time since married to a Young Woman, but not bedded, she did after marriage, solemnly promise, that she'd ne'r alter what she had done; but at a certain time, come and live with him. The time appointed is now come, but her mind is so changed, that she declares she'll never come near him. Qu. Whether she can do this lawfully?

Ans. No, doubtless, neither by the Laws of God nor man; the strong words having pass'd between 'em, and a Contract both Civil and Sacred, the Woman having solemnly promis'd in the presence of God, "To obey him, serve him, love, honour and keep him in sickness and in health, and forsaking all other, keep her only to him as long as they both should live."

Quest. 3. A Gentleman making his Addresse to a young Woman, was well received both by her and her Parents, and on her desire promised her Marriage, if her Parents would consent to it; but soon after his Passion so far over-rul'd him, that he made her an absolute promise. At length the young Gentlewoman was sent to the Boarding-School, and not long after, the Gentleman began to treat with her Parents concerning her Fortune, who would not answer his desires, though very reasonable, nor so much as consent that she should marry him, till a considerable time after; on which he began to be cold in the matter; and his Circumstances being such, that if he had staid so long a time as they appointed, he was in danger to have been ruined. At the same time it happened the Gentleman had an offer of a more considerable Fortune, and writ to his Parents concerning it, stating the Case as it really was; on which they advis'd him to quit the former, and embrace the Offer of the latter; which he accordingly did, and was married to her: Since which the other has given out, That would he have staid, he should have had more than his demands. The Question is, Whether he did not err in marrying the second, when he had so absolutely promised the first, concerning which he is now exceedingly troubled, and desires your Judgment concerning his Action, and Directions how he should now behave himself, with Scripture-proofs for all you assert.

Ans. The last demand is unreasonable, and is scarce now expected even by the wildest Enthusiasts in matters of Religion, much less in the common concerns of Life, we being left to the conduct of our own Reason, and general Notions of Just and Right in those matters: Or if Revelation is any way concerned, 'tis only by giving general Rules of Prudence, Truth and Justice, all which the Gentleman seems to have broken, and therefore can only set himself right again by Repentance, and asking pardon for his Error, both from God and the injured person. Indeed he has made several false steps in the whole affair, wherein he can't be excused from great Rashness and Imprudence. He did not well in beginning a business of that moment, without his Parents Consent and Advice, at least their Permission. He did yet worse, in making such an absolute Promise, whereby he insnar'd himself; and brought the present trouble on his mind. He again did ill in being so very hasty with the Parents of his former Mistress, who being, it should seem, very young (by their sending her to a Boarding-School), the Old Folks, 'tis like, thought it more prudence to delay her marriage some time longer; at least might expect the consent of his Parents, and that they themselves should move in the matter. However, it looks suspicious, that the weightiest motive to the Gent. changing his affections, was, that he apprehended his second Mistress had a better Fortune than the former. The only thing that can almost excuse him, is what he pleads [that he had been in danger of Ruine, had he staid unmarried till the time appointed]; but the question still is, how great that danger was, and whether true and real, or in his own Fancy only? If real, it would have excus'd his marrying the second, supposing he had at first us'd all his endeavours to obtain the first, and had been quite desperate of succeeding. Nor could his Parents consent or refusal, vacate his first absolute promise. Yet after all, it must be confess'd it looks well to be troubled for an ill thing, even when it can't be remedied, especially in an Age when such as call, or swear themselves Lovers, are so ready to laugh at their own Perjurers (and think that Heaven will do the same) when they have no Temptation but Variety, to so base a sin. All the Gentleman can do in the present Case, is, as we have before advis'd, to ask God pardon for his Disobedience, Rashness and Unfaithfulness, and the persons injured for his Inconstancy and Falshood. But not farther, we think to disturb his Mind, or make his Life uneasy, since, sure enough, this marriage holds good now 'tis done, though we think he ought not to have done it.

A Proposal TO ALL Ingenious Ladies.

A Young Lady having been much reflected on by Sir Thomas ——— for her high Top-knots, &c. and going to Plays, &c. sends him a CHALLENGE, wherein she says she'll defend against him, the present Dresses and Customs of her own Sex, and offers to write with him either pro or con on all the disputable points relating to Women ——— He accepts the CHALLENGE, and is now writing (which will be Subject-matter for about 600 Letters) P. E. L. E. C. T. I. O. N. S. on whatever he judges either wild or immodest in the Fair Sex. But the Lady who made the CHALLENGE, being since doubtful of her own Abilities for so Great an Undertaking, has got to her assistance several ingenious Ladies, each of which will affix their Names to what Point they defend, that the world may be satisfied that the Answer to every one of the Gentleman's Letters is truly FEMININE ——— The Lady who first made the CHALLENGE gives publick Notice of it in this Paper, in hopes that the Witty CLEONTA, the Learned ARTEMISA, and the PINDARICK LADY mentioned in the Athenian Mercury, Numb. 5. Vol. 14. (with all other ingenious Ladies both in London and the Countrey) will come in Volunteers to this LITTEAL WAR, in which all the Dresses, Customs, Honours and Priviledges, &c. belonging to the Fair Sex, will be vigorously attackt. ——— As soon as ever the Gentleman who has accepted this CHALLENGE, has finished all his REFLECTING LETTERS, (which will be in about 3 weeks time, it being 6 months since he first accepted this CHALLENGE) there will be Notice given to all ingenious Ladies, what the Subject-matter of each Letter is, that so each Lady may take what Letter she thinks she can best answer. ——— As soon as ever this Paper War is over, and Printed, there will be publick Notice given of it in the Gazette. ——— This is further to give Notice, that this Young Ladies First Challenge, with the Gentleman's Answer to it, will be speedily inserted in the Athenian Mercury, that so all ingenious Ladies may have a Clearer Idea of the CHALLENGE this Young Lady would engage them in. ——— All those Ladies who will engage in this CHALLENGE, are desired to send in their Names, and places of abode, to John Dunton at the Raven in Jewen-street, within a weeks time at farthest; the Young Lady designing to publish the whole ENCOUNTER by Christmas next.

The Double Chance.

TO be drawn at twice, wherein all that shall not have Benefits the first drawing, shall have their Tickets that arise with Blanks, put into the glass again, and drawn a second time, in which there will be but about four to one against them to recover their money again.

There will be given out 50000 Tickets, at 20s. per Ticket, to answer which 50000 l. will be drawn at twice, viz. in the First Drawing 40800 l. and in the Second Drawing 9200 l. to be lotted, viz.

Lotts.	l.
1 —————	5000
1 —————	2500
1 —————	1500
1 —————	1000
3 — of 500 l. ———	1500
6 — of 200 ———	1200
50 — of 100 ———	5000
60 — of 50 ———	3000
60 — of 40 ———	2400
150 — of 30 ———	4500
300 — of 20 ———	6000
400 — of 10 ———	4000
400 — of 8 ———	3200

Lotts 1433

All the Numbred Tickets shall be put into one Glass, as usual, and in the first Drawing be drawn against 40800 l. in the other Glass, Lotted, as above, with proportionable Blanks.

All those Numbred Tickets, which shall not have the Fortune to arise with Benefits in this First Drawing,

shall be put into one Glass a second time; and in the other Glass 9000 Benefits of 20 s. each, and be drawn again; besides which 2000 that Numbred Ticket which ariseth with the First, as also that which ariseth with the Last in the other Glass, shall have 100 l. each, that is to say in the Second Drawing.

It is resolved to be drawn by the 14th of December next, 1694. and if not full, in proportion to what then is full. All when they receive their Benefits, are to abate 10 s. for Trouble and Charges of the undertaking.

We doubt not of speedy filling, not only from considerable Sums, which have been sent from other Affairs of this kind to put in here, upon the Rumour of this, but also from these Advantages above others, viz.

First, But about 22 Blanks to a Benefit in the First Drawing.

Secondly, He that draws not a benefit the first drawing, hath but about Four to One against him, to recover his whole Money in the second drawing, besides 100 l. for the First, and 100 l. for the Last Ticket.

Thirdly, He that puts in 100 l. can be said to adventure but 80 l. since he hath an equal Lay to recover about 20 l. in the second drawing, and a possibility to recover more than all, and yet hath as fair an hit for the great benefits from 100 Tickets as if he really adventurd 100 l. and so for a greater or lesser Sum, whereas in others if they draw not a Benefit the first time their whole money is lost.

Fourthly, Whereas it is universally objected, that by mixing but a few blanks with benefits, 50000 Tickets cannot be so well shak'd, but a great number of the same must still continue at the bottom (that otherwise might have a good chance if all were drawn) and so impossible for them to have a chance, which chiefly occasion'd the misfortune at Exeter Change. Here it is resolv'd all shall be drawn, that both then and after, all may be satisfy'd the Tickets they paid their money for, were fairly put in, and fairly drawn.

The time of Drawing is upon each Ticket, with a Bill to return the money if not then drawn, also the Goldsmiths hath given Security to be accountable for what Money they receive; in whose hands the Money shall all lye till drawn, where all are to receive their Benefits.

This Undertaking being clear'd from all Objections made against the 50000 l. lately drawn, is so much encouraged, that the books are design'd to be shut up speedily.

Since an affair of this kind cannot legally be prosecuted without Licence from the Patentees of the Royal Oak, we thought fit to incert, that we have a Licence under the Seal of their Office, as may be seen at Mr. Smiths, next Bedford gate in Charles-street, Covent garden. And that no Lottery, except one of between 16 and 17000 pounds, is so licensed by them, or will be licensed till this is drawn.

The following Persons have pleas'd to promise to be present, as Trustees, to see to the Fairness of the Management, viz. The Right Honourable the Earl of Bullingbrook, the Earl of Roscommon, the Honourable Collonel Philip Howard, Sir Gualdard Nelthorpe Baronet, Sir John Morden Baronet, Sir James Butler Knight, Sir John Mordant Knight, Capt. John Marlow, Capt. Sam. Westall, Mr. John Hester, Mr. Mathew Howard, Mr. Nicholas Cutler, Mr. Elias Turner, Merchants.

Proposals and Tickets may be had of John Sweetapple, Esq; at the Blackmoors Head, Mr. Joseph Horneby at the Star, Mr. Henry Lamb at the Unicorn, Mr. Tho. Williams at the Crown, Mr. Samuel Layfield at the White Horse, Mr. William Shepherd at the Angel, in Lombard-street; Mr. John Blunt the Golden Anchor, in St. Bartholomew-lane; Capt. John Passil the Kings Arms, Mr. Ed. Harrison the Hen and Chickens, in Cheapside; Mr. Ja. Marmion, at Ram-Alley end in Fleetstreet; Mr. John Foden at the Three Flower de luces at Fetterlane end, Chpt. Tho. Platts in Holbourn; Mr. Robert Cooper the Golden Lyon, near St. Clements Church, Mr. George Haller, the Corner of York Buildings; Mr. Richard Adams the Black Horse, near Charing Cross; Mr. Compton, by Clare Market; Mr. Charles Shelly in Panten street, and Mr. Nathaniel Green near Leicester Fields; Mr. Andrew Coleman over against the Kings Brewhouse by the Hermitage, near St. Catharines, Goldsmiths; Mr. Edm. Lloyds Coffee-House in Lombardstreet; Mr. Ja. Mashburne Mercer at Oxon, Mr. Crosley at Bristol, Mr. Rumbold at Cambridge, Mr. Nicholas Dixon, next St. Charles Cottrell's in St. Martins lane, Mr. M. Smith, in Covent Garden. 'Tis design'd to be drawn in Freemans Yard, or some other convenient place in the City. The Prizes will be printed daily as they are drawn. Marshal Smith. Nicholas Dixon.

LONDON, Printed for John Dunton at the Raven in Jewen-Street, 1694.